

## NEWS RELEASE

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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## San Diego Superior Court Salutes 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of North County Bar Association

On Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, the San Diego Superior Court will commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North County Bar Association and will make public a court display saluting notable North County Jurists. The golden anniversary celebration will include the unveiling of a new *Distinguished Judges Gallery* displaying oil canvases of well-known, North County Judges. The paintings of Judge F.V. Lopardo, Zalman J. Scherer, and Judge Andrew G. Wagner will be unveiled at a noon event in the South Building Lobby of the North County Courthouse.

"These three judges not only had a tremendous impact on the North County judicial system but our entire court. Their daily presence here at the courthouse is missed but they will live on through these magnificent paintings," says Presiding Judge Janis Sammartino.

The North County Bar Association anniversary celebration shines a spotlight on how the legal community and the Court have changed over the past 50 years. In 1956, there were only ten Superior Court Judges in the entire county of San Diego, and no Superior Court Judges in North County. Back then, on every other Wednesday, a Superior Court Judge would travel to North County to hear divorces and probate matters. The rest of the North County matters were handled by Municipal Court Judges. Today, there are 27 judges in North County alone.

"For the past 50 years, the North County Bar Association has been dedicated to providing its members with an extensive array of services, resources and benefits to enhance professionalism and ensure continued growth and success," says North County Bar Association President, Jim Lund, who adds, "This milestone celebration gives us a chance to reflect on the accomplishments of both the Superior Court and our organization."